NOT FOR PUBLICATION

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FILED

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

JUL 17 2008

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff - Appellee,

V.

EDUARDO MARMOLEJO RIVERA,

Defendant - Appellant.

No. 07-50163

D.C. No. CR-06-00624-GHK-1

MEMORANDUM*

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Central District of California George H. King, District Judge, Presiding

Argued and Submitted July 14, 2008**
Pasadena, California

Before: SILVERMAN, RAWLINSON, and M. SMITH, Circuit Judges.

Eduardo Marmolejo Rivera was charged with willful disobedience of a court order in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 401(3). He was convicted after a bench trial and timely appealed. We have jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1291, and we reverse.

^{*} This disposition is not appropriate for publication and is not precedent except as provided by 9th Cir. R. 36-3.

Rivera was charged with violating section (c)(12) of the permanent injunction. The plain language of this section simply does not prohibit him from communicating with the Department of Justice on behalf of a law client being investigated for tax evasion. He was not charged with violating any other section. But even if some conceivable reading of a different section of the injunction could be said to prohibit such conduct, we would be unable to conclude that Rivera had been provided with "fair and precisely drawn notice" that his representation of a client before the DOJ was forbidden under the injunction as written. Union Pac. R.R. Co. v. Mower, 219 F.3d 1069, 1077 (9th Cir. 2000) (citing Granny Goose Foods, Inc. v. Bhd. of Teamsters, 415 U.S. 423, 444 (1974)). The injunction's failure to provide such notice defeats the finding of wilfulness that is an essential element of criminal contempt. See United States v. Armstrong, 781 F.2d 700, 706 (9th Cir. 1986).

REVERSED.